

Germline prognostic markers for urinary bladder cancer

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VALORISATION

Urinary bladder cancer is a malignancy that carries substantial burden on health systems and patient lives. Although research on bladder cancer is ongoing, findings with significant clinical impact are scarce, making genetics an attractive area of focus to provide meaningful developments.

This thesis provides an overview of made progress in the last few decades in the field of genetic epidemiology of non-muscle invasive bladder cancer prognosis. Although a promising and exciting research direction, it has to be taken with certain precautions in mind, which will help to save financial and human resources. The results from this research can be used by the academic community to prioritise genetic targets that have the highest probability to be robust targets for advancing bladder cancer management.

In addition, the current work has explored curation of routinely collected data to define bladder cancer clinical outcomes that can be used to study the disease in observational datasets. As a result, the published methodology can be easily reproduced by research groups worldwide to study bladder cancer prognosis across various settings and without a need for establishing prospective studies that are costly and time-consuming.

Both of the aforementioned aspects make this research a valuable asset in accelerating research on bladder cancer genetics, as well as providing a tool for study validation in openly available datasets. All of these findings were presented in conferences and published in journals to disseminate the efforts among academic peer groups.